



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 06 September 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The International Energy Agency on Friday agreed to release crude oil, gasoline, and other refined products over the next month at the rate of two million barrels a day to help relieve shortages after Hurricane Katrina. (See item [1](#))
- U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Mineta has requested the Department of Defense to release vessels in the U.S. Ready Reserve Fleet for service moving supplies and personnel in and people out of areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. (See item [10](#))
- A report from the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies says the system for intercepting microbial threats at the United States' airports, seaports, and borders needs strategic leadership and a comprehensive plan to meet the challenges posed by emerging diseases and bioterrorist threats. (See item [27](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 05, Associated Press* — **International Energy Agency to release oil and gas from reserves.** Oil prices fell Monday, September 5, after the International Energy Agency (IEA) on Friday agreed to release 60 million barrels of crude oil, gasoline, and other refined products

from their strategic stockpiles to help avert a severe fuel shortage in the United States. The total release from the IEA includes 30 million from the United States' own Strategic Petroleum Reserve, which is near its capacity of around 700 million barrels stored in salt caverns in Texas and Louisiana. The U.S. refinery system was struggling to recover from Hurricane Katrina. The storm shut eight major refineries and caused 12 others to run at reduced rates when their crude-oil supplies were cut. Two storm-shuttered facilities restarted and flows of crude oil improved enough to allow refineries in the Gulf Coast and Midwest to ramp up production. But four damaged Gulf Coast refiners look likely to remain shut for weeks or even months, taking with them more than 5% of U.S. capacity. Refineries in Louisiana expect to be back running within the week. Motiva Enterprises, a joint venture of Royal Dutch Shell PLC and state-owned Saudi Arabian Oil Co., has begun to restart its 235,000 barrel a day refinery. Marathon Oil Corp. restarted its 245,000 barrel a day refinery last week.

IEA statement: <http://www.iea.org/presseppd.pdf>

Department of Energy statement:

http://www.doe.gov/engine/content.do?PUBLIC_ID=18624&BT_CODE=PR_PRESSRELEASES&TT_CODE=PRESSRELEASE

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/2005-09-05-oil-prices_x.htm?POE=NEWISVA

2. *September 05, Associated Press* — **Utilities making progress restoring power.** Three utility companies that experienced widespread Hurricane Katrina power outages reported progress Monday, September 5, in restoring service to customers. But more than 800,000 customers still were without power, one week after Hurricane Katrina struck. Entergy Corp. said it has restored service to more than half of the 1.1 million customers that lost power. Another 517,000 Entergy residential and business customers still have no power, mostly in Louisiana. The Electric Power Association of Mississippi said that more about 222,000 of its customers still remain in the dark. Southern Co., whose utility subsidiaries serve customers in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia, said it restored power to about 44 percent of its Mississippi customers, leaving about 80,000 still to be reconnected. Crews from more than 20 states and some Canadian provinces have joined local workers to bring power back to the hardest hit areas of Mississippi and Louisiana. The companies say it could take months to restore service to some areas, especially those still underwater. Restoration priorities typically go to areas of public safety such as hospitals, police stations and fire and rescue buildings. From there, companies try to resume the largest blocks of customers at one time.

Source: <http://www.breitbart.com/news/2005/09/05/D8CEF3SO0.html>

3. *September 02, North American Electric Reliability Council* — **NERC issues Long-Term Reliability Assessment.** The North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) on September 2, issued its 2005 Long-Term Reliability Assessment. The report assesses long-term electricity supply and demand and transmission reliability in North America through 2014, and discusses key issues and trends affecting the reliability of future electric supplies and transmission systems. According to the report, electricity demand is expected to grow by about 69,500 MW between 2005 and 2009. Projected resource additions over this same period total about 49,000 MW, depending upon the number of merchant plants assumed to be in service. Resource adequacy in the longer term is more uncertain. More than 12,400 miles of new transmission are proposed to be added over the 2005–2014 time frame. This represents a 5.9 percent increase in the total amount of installed transmission over the assessment time frame.

Most NERC regions do not anticipate any problems with fuel supplies for the assessment period. However, the industry's growing dependence upon natural gas as a primary fuel for new power plants is an emerging area of concern.

The ten-year assessment is available at: <http://www.nerc.com/~filez/rasreports.html>

Source: <http://www.nerc.com/~filez/pressreleases.html>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

4. *September 02, United Press International* — **Explosions at chemical storage facility in New Orleans prompts temporary evacuation order.** An early-morning explosion occurred in New Orleans Friday, September 2, adding to the anxiety of those displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The explosions occurred in a chemical storage facility near the Mississippi River east of the French Quarter, near a residential area and railroad tracks. Jefferson Parish Emergency Operations Center Director Walter Maestri said the explosion was the result of gas problems in Bywater, LA. The first explosion sent flames shooting into the sky. A series of smaller blasts followed. Officials initially feared a toxic release and ordered an evacuation of the area immediately surrounding the blast — an area known as chemical alley. The explosion produced fumes, but experts said they did not think there was a public health hazard, and the emergency evacuation order was rescinded.

Additional details: <http://www.wbir.com/news/news.aspx?storyid=28367>

Source: <http://www.washtimes.com/upi/20050902-061849-6063r.htm>

5. *September 02, Associated Press* — **Factory fire prompts evacuation in Indiana.** A fire at the Jordan Manufacturing Company — a patio furniture factory — ravished most of the building early Friday, September 2, and prompted the evacuation of a two-square-mile area around the factory in Monticello, IN. No one was injured in the fire. Woodlawn Elementary School, located in the evacuation area, was closed for the day. At the height of the fire, ten fire departments were on the scene in the city said Monticello Fire Chief Galen Logan. In addition, representatives of the state fire marshal's office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives arrived on scene. The evacuation order was still in place at 8 a.m. on Friday. Seven monitoring stations have been set up around the city to determine if the fire released hazardous materials since sulphuric acid and other chemicals were stored at the plant. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined.

Source: <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=3799165&nav=9Taie4TC>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *September 04, Knight Ridder Newspapers* — **After Katrina, bank regulators work harder.** Phone calls for help are coming to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., the federal agency charged with insuring bank deposits. Since Tuesday, August 30, agency volunteers have manned the FDIC's toll-free hot line 24 hours a day. "They don't know if the funds they had coming in were there. They don't know whether their mortgage payment has been paid. They don't know if their car loan can be extended another month. Those are the kinds of calls we are getting," said Mauricio Lainez, a call-center supervisor. Administrators and lawyers are now telephone operators, and they act as referral agency. Banks are required to have information backed up electronically, and most have third-party providers that store information off-site to ensure bank records aren't lost in a disaster, said Mitchell Glassman, director of the FDIC division that takes over troubled banks. "The big issue now is communication," said Glassman, adding that by Saturday, September 3, about 80 percent of the roughly 240 FDIC-regulated banks in the Katrina-affected area had been reached by regulators. Most were open for business in some fashion.
- Status of banks in affected areas: <http://www.fdic.gov/news/katrina/KatrinaStatus.pdf>
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/politics/125_62224.htm

7. *September 02, Daily Journal (MS)* — **BancorpSouth shuts 13 Gulf Coast branches.** BancorpSouth said Thursday, September 1, its 13 banking locations on the Mississippi Gulf Coast are closed and some of them had suffered damage from Hurricane Katrina. However, bank locations in central and south Mississippi including Jackson, Vicksburg, Hattiesburg, and Laurel that were knocked of action had reopened. In addition, its Stewart Sneed Hewes Insurance Division, which has its headquarters in Gulfport, is fully functional. Bank officials said they were assessing the damage and were "working to ensure the safety of its employees and their families in addition to returning service to customers as soon as possible." Of BancorpSouth's 250 locations in its six-state market area, the company operates 13 banking locations along the Gulf Coast in Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties. Approximately six percent of the bank's outstanding loans are in the area primarily affected by the hurricane. BancorpSouth Chairman and CEO Aubrey B. Patterson said that initial reports indicate that certain BancorpSouth banking offices are damaged and currently no Gulf Coast office is open due to power outages and/or structural damage.
- Source: <http://www.djournal.com/pages/story.asp?ID=201031&pub=1&div=News>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

8. *September 05, CBC News* — **Indonesian jetliner crashes.** A jetliner crashed Monday, September 5, in a residential neighborhood of Indonesia's third biggest city killing 141 people. The toll includes 30 people on the ground. Six passengers survived. The Mandala Airlines Boeing 737 crashed seconds after takeoff in the residential area of Medan, the capital of North Sumatra province. The jet broke into pieces, setting fire to homes and creating mass panic. Hundreds of policemen, paramedics and residents tried to evacuate victims from the crash scene. But flames and the thousands of people wanting to visit the crash site hampered efforts. Conditions at the local hospital were chaotic as patients were brought in. Most were burnt beyond recognition. Mandala Airlines director Asril Tanjung speculated on the cause of the disaster. "Temporarily, we are saying the cause is from take-off failure but we don't know yet

whether it was from engine trouble, human error or weather." Tanjung felt that foul play was unlikely.

Source: http://www.cbc.ca/story/world/national/2005/09/05/indonesian_air_crash_20050905.html

9. *September 05, U.S. Coast Guard* — **U.S. Coast Guard rescue operations continue.** More than 2,400 Coast Guard personnel from Florida to Louisiana are continuing to conduct search, rescue, response, waterway reconstitution and environmental impact assessment operations. To date, the Coast Guard has used air and boat crews to rescue more than 22,000 people and has assisted with the joint-agency evacuation of an additional 9,400 patients and medical personnel from hospitals in the Gulf coast region. More than 11,000 of the rescues were made via air and almost 11,000 rescues were made via boat operations, and hundreds of people are continuing to be rescued daily by Coast Guard crews. Units continue to deliver thousands of bottles of water to victims who remain in the New Orleans area and the Coast Guard is coordinating the salvage of more than 100 vessels. The Lower Mississippi River is open to ship, tug and barge traffic with the following restrictions: a safety zone is in place from Southwest Pass to mile marker 235 preventing vessels with a draft greater than 35 feet from transiting the river. Transits are allowed during daylight only, and one-way traffic is required in three areas.

For additional updates on the status of ports and waterways: <http://www.uscgstormwatch.com>

For information about offshore oil rig and platform status: <http://www.mms.gov>

To report a missing or stranded person: <http://www.homeport.uscg.mil>

Source: <https://www.piersystem.com/external/?cid=1008&fuseaction=external.viewDocument&documentID=82620>

10. *September 03, Department of Transportation* — **Department of Transportation makes request to use Ready Reserve Fleet and arranges for oil deliveries to support relief efforts.** New ships and oil trucks will soon be joining the planes, trains, buses, and trucks involved in the massive operation to bring supplies into areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, Secretary of the Department of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta said on Saturday, September 3. The announcement comes as the historic airlift operation at the New Orleans Airport continues to evacuate thousands of residents from the region. Secretary Mineta became the first head of the Department of Transportation in history to request the Department of Defense to release vessels in the U.S. Ready Reserve Fleet for service moving supplies and personnel into the region and people out. The Empire State, Sirius, State of Maine, Wright and Diamond State are ready to set sail. The Cape Kennedy and Cape Knox are already in New Orleans. These ships have the capacity to move hundreds of personnel and thousands of tons of supplies into the region. The Department, working with the U.S. Department of Energy, has helped secure trucks and a direct source of fuel to re-supply emergency and relief personnel along the coast. The trucks, which were located with the assistance of the American Trucking Associations, will be able to tap directly into a Kinder Morgan pipeline to speed up loading and delivery.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot12105.htm>

11. *September 03, Reuters* — **Three Carnival cruise ships to aid Katrina relief.** The U.S. government has chartered three luxury cruise liners — Ecstasy, Sensation and Holiday — for the next six months to provide temporary housing for victims of Hurricane Katrina, Carnival Cruise Lines said Saturday. Two of the ships, the Ecstasy and Sensation, have a maximum capacity of 2,606 each and will be based in Galveston, Texas, while the third boat, the Holiday,

has a maximum capacity of 1,800 and will likely be docked in Mobile, Alabama, the Miami-based company said. Thousands of people in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama were left homeless after Katrina ripped across the Gulf Coast with powerful winds and widespread flooding, ruining homes, buildings and critical infrastructure.

Additional information is available from FEMA:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=18606>

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/09/03/katrina.cruise.reut/index.html>

12. *September 02, Associated Press* — **Small plane crashes into post office, killing pilot.** A small plane crashed into a post office building near New Jersey's Teterboro Airport late Friday, September 2, killing the pilot and injuring a passenger, authorities said. The single-engine Cessna struck the South Hackensack Post Office building as the plane was trying to land, said Steve Coleman, a spokesperson for the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, which operates the airport. The plane ended up crumpled nose-first against a brick wall near a loading dock. There was no immediate word on the extent of the passenger's injuries. The Cessna was diverted to Teterboro after the pilot reported an engine problem, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) spokesperson Arlene Murray said. She said the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the crash. The crash site is about a half-mile from Teterboro Airport, one of the nation's busiest small airports. It handles a steady stream of corporate and small package delivery aircraft and had more than 200,000 arrivals and departures in 2004. The airport is about 12 miles west of New York. There have been three previous accidents there this year, two in which planes skidded off runways and a third in which a plane crashed while trying to land.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2005-09-02-plane-crash_x.htm

13. *August 28, Aviation Now* — **Air Line Pilots Association unveils new runway safety Website.** As traffic grows at airports around the world, so does concern for increased risk of runway incursions. To help promote safe runway operations, the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) — in conjunction with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Runway Safety Office and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association — has unveiled a new educational Website. The site targets airline flight crews, but is of benefit to all pilots and "anyone interested in obtaining 'anti-runway incursion procedural training,'" says ALPA Manager of Air Safety Operations Charlie Bergman. The site also includes a section covering new technologies for runway safety. The FAA Runway Safety Office provided \$400,000 for the Website and a similar DVD scheduled for release in October.

ALPA Website: <http://www.alpa.org>

Source: http://aviationnow.ecnext.com/free-scripts/comsite2.pl?page=aw_document&article=08295p07

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Postal and Shipping Sector

14. *September 03, Associated Press* — **Mail delivery to victims.** The U.S. Postal Service is making arrangements to get mail to evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. Officials are urging the evacuees to file change-of-address cards listing their shelter's address. The plan could help reunite family members sent to shelters in various cities. A change of address can be filed by

telephone at 1-800 ASK-USPS. People who believe they may have family members at the Houston Astrodome can address their mail to the named individual at "General Delivery Houston, Texas 77230." Similar arrangements are being made for major shelters set up for people evacuated to other areas of the U.S. The district manager for the United States Postal Service in Houston says the agency's headquarters staff began putting the plan together before Hurricane Katrina hit last weekend. Mail for much of Louisiana has been forwarded to Houston.

Source: <http://www.wtvynews4.com/home/headlines/1716921.html>

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Agriculture Sector

15. *September 05, Agence France Presse* — **World-leading pork exporter Denmark sees sharp increase in pig mortality.** Denmark, the world-leading pork exporter, has seen the number of pigs that die from illnesses increase by 25 percent over the past decade to about seven million animals a year. Of the 32 million pigs born in the Scandinavian country last year, 21.2 percent died, said Hans Aarestrup Pedersen, the head of a pork organization that represents about two thirds of Denmark's pig producers. "It is very difficult for us to explain why the mortality continues to increase, by 25 percent over the past 10 years, even as the farming conditions have improved," he said. More than half of all pigs that die in Denmark before they can be sent to the slaughterhouse are young piglets, according to Pedersen. The head of Denmark's National Committee of Pork Producers, Lindhardt Nielsen, meanwhile told AFP that the industry had halved the pork consumption of antibiotics since 1996. That "has also played a part", he said, adding that more viruses had contributed to the problem as well.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050905/hl_afp/denmarkhealthnials_050905160452

16. *September 03, Detroit Free Press (MI)* — **Officials probe deer disease.** A strange illness that has affected wild whitetail deer in Kent, MI, probably isn't chronic wasting disease (CWD). But the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wants the public to help it learn what made the animals lose weight, foam at the mouth, and stagger before they died. "I'm pretty confident that it isn't CWD," Steve Schmidt, a DNR veterinarian, said Friday, September 2. "We've tested more than 17,000 deer, 400 elk, and 20 moose in Michigan and haven't found one case. Earlier this month, Kent police killed three emaciated, sick deer and saw two others in the same condition nearby. A few miles away, a woman saw a large buck suffering with similar symptoms die in her backyard, and a man killed a fawn that was thin, blind, drooling, and losing hair, officials said. "If it was CWD, it would be unprecedented to find that many showing obvious symptoms in a short space of time," Schmidt said. Visible signs of CWD include hair loss, emaciation, drooling, and mental aberrations. Other deer diseases also produce those symptoms.

Source: http://www.freep.com/sports/outdoors/deer3e_20050903.htm

17. *September 03, Associated Press* — **U.S. confirms citrus greening in Florida.** A plant illness that could endanger Florida's nine billion dollars citrus industry has been found for the first time in the U.S., agriculture officials said Friday, September 2. The bacterial disease known as citrus greening was found in samples collected from two trees in South Florida, officials said. Citrus greening is not a threat to humans but it has harmed trees in Asia, the Arabian Peninsula,

and Africa. Its first U.S. detection was confirmed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture after state scientists sent the samples there. The disease, primarily transmitted by insect, affects the vascular system of plants and causes infected trees to die in a few years. "It would definitely be devastating to the citrus industry" if allowed to spread unchecked or if it's found to be widespread already, said Denise Feiber, spokesperson for the Florida agriculture department. The Asian version of citrus greening was found on two samples of pummelo tree leaf and fruit samples 14 miles apart in the city of Homestead, a farming center in Miami–Dade County. The disease probably arrived in Florida from infected Asian plant material that came into contact with the insects that spread it, known as citrus psyllids, Feiber said.

Source: <http://www.tallahassee.com/mld/tallahassee/news/12555876.htm>

18. *September 02, USAGNet* — **Mississippi farmers could lose \$15 million from storm.** This year should have set record yields for Northeast Mississippi's corn harvest. But Hurricane Katrina changed all that. The 55–mile–per–hour winds and five to 10 inches of rain toppled stalks and flooded fields throughout the region. Many farmers have found nearly a third of their crops totally destroyed. "There is pretty severe damage," said Erick Larson, corn and small grains specialist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. Katrina ravaged between 10–30 percent of Northeast Mississippi's three biggest crops — soybeans, cotton and corn — and damage will strip anywhere from \$12.7 to \$15.5 million dollars from projected profits at harvest time. Because of its tall stalks, corn sustained the most damage from high winds. It alone faces a three to \$4.5 million loss. And while cotton twisted in the storm's gusts, it mainly suffered from flooding waters, said Tom Barber, cotton specialist with the MSU Extension Service. Cotton growers could lose 15 percent of their fields and \$7.2 million this year. The region's biggest crop, soybeans, could also shed 15 percent of its yields this year, resulting in a \$3.8 million loss.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.cfm?Id=888&yr=2005>

19. *September 02, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources* — **West Virginia's first case of chronic wasting disease found.** The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources announced September 2, it has received confirmation that a road–killed deer in Hampshire County tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD). "This is the first known occurrence of CWD in West Virginia," said Director Frank Jezioro. "Upon receiving this confirmation, we initiated our CWD Response Plan." The CWD Response Plan is specifically designed to determine the prevalence and the distribution of CWD through enhanced surveillance efforts; communicate and coordinate with the public and other appropriate agencies on issues relating to CWD and the steps being taken to respond to this disease; and initiate appropriate management actions necessary to control the spread of the disease, prevent further introductions of the disease, and possibly eliminate the disease from the state. CWD is a neurological disease found in deer and elk, and it belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The disease is thought to be caused by abnormal, proteinaceous particles called prions that slowly attack the brain of infected deer and elk, causing the animals to progressively become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and invariably results in the death of the infected animal. There is no known treatment for CWD, and it is always fatal for the infected deer or elk.

CWD Alliance Website: <http://www.cwd-info.org>

Source: <http://www.wvdnr.gov/2005news/05news167.shtm>

September 02, University of Missouri Extension — **Corn earworms attacking soybean pods in Missouri.** Corn earworms, a pest most often seen on the tips of sweet corn ears, are eating soybean pods at a damaging rate in fields from Kansas City, MO, south to the Arkansas state line, said Wayne Bailey, coordinator of the University of Missouri Extension plant protection group. Most calls are coming from soybean growers in a two-county tier along the Kansas state line, Bailey said. Once earworms start feeding, they cause damage for up to two weeks as they go through five or six stages of their life cycle. In normal years beneficial insects keep earworms under control in soybeans, Bailey said. However, after hot and dry weather those predators are in scarce supply.

Source: http://muextension.missouri.edu/news/newsExtDisp.asp?story_num=3421

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.

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Water Sector

21. *August 31, Reno Gazette-Journal (NV)* — Local water officials rethinking flood control techniques. Catastrophic failure of levees in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina emphasizes the need to minimize using such structures in flood control improvements along the Truckee River, in Nevada, experts said Wednesday, August 31. After New Orleans residents thought they had largely escaped massive damage from the hurricane that slammed into the Gulf Coast on Monday, sections of two levees broke Tuesday, August 30, inundating up to 80 percent of the city in floodwaters. News accounts of catastrophic flooding in New Orleans are “waving an awful lot of red flags in my mind” concerning how the Truckee River project should be built, Paul Urban, Washoe County flood control manager, said. “The Army Corps of Engineers is reviewing three different options to control flooding along the river, each designed to avoid a repeat of floods such as the one that caused nearly \$700 million in damage in January 1997. Two of the options rely on levees. A third option favored by a community coalition involves a “living river” concept that would minimize the use of such structures and instead allow the river to flood naturally along undeveloped floodplains and terraced portions of the riverbank.

Source: http://www.rgj.com/news/stories/html/2005/08/31/107758.php?ps=rgj.com&sch=LocalNews&sp1=rgj&sp2=News&sp3=Local+News&sp5=RGJ.com&sp6=news&sp7=local_news

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Public Health Sector

22. *September 05, Agence France Presse* — Vietnam to vaccinate children, citing Indonesia polio outbreak. Vietnam will vaccinate nearly 2.3 million children aged under five against polio, with a top health official citing the threat of the disease spreading from Indonesia and elsewhere. The vaccination drive will be conducted in two rounds, in November and December,

said doctor Do Sy Hien, chairman of the national program. "We have to do that because of the risk that polio may enter Vietnam, not just from Indonesia, but from any country where the disease still exists," Hien said. Vietnam eliminated polio in 1997 and three years later was internationally acknowledged to have done so, he said. Infants are routinely vaccinated against polio in Vietnam but the latest campaign seeks to plug any loopholes. The waterborne virus, which attacks and withers children's limbs and can kill them, reemerged in Indonesia in April, nearly a decade after it was believed to have been stamped out there. The country, the 16th to be reinfected after an outbreak in Nigeria, has reported 226 infections, including one adult who died.

Global polio eradication Initiative: <http://www.polioeradication.org>

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20050905/hl_afp/healthvietnamindonesia_050905122822

23. *September 04, Associated Press* — **Shelter in Biloxi closed after 20 fall ill.** Officials closed a shelter Saturday, September 3, because more than 20 people there fell ill, and doctors believe the patients may have contracted dysentery from tainted water. Another 20 people in the area also were treated for vomiting and diarrhea. The shelter at a Biloxi, MS, school had been without water and power since Katrina hit Monday, August 29. About 400 people had been staying there, and doctors said some may have ignored warnings to stay away from water. Some running water came back on Friday, September 2, but it was not safe to drink or even to use to brush teeth or wash, said Jason Dees, a volunteer working at Biloxi Regional Medical Center. Most of the patients were treated with antibiotics. About 30 ill residents were taken to a hospital in Mobile, AL, while the rest were bused to a shelter in Thomasville, GA.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/US/09/04/katrina.sick.shelter.ap/>

24. *September 04, Associated Press* — **Astrodome triage center treating hundreds.** The triage line inside the Houston, TX, Astrodome hasn't changed much since the buses began arriving from New Orleans Friday, September 2. It's long with tired, ailing refugees, some in wheelchairs, some on crutches, some critical, some not, but every one of them waiting on a doctor. Mary Cavnar Johnson, M.D., has treated 50 people in four hours. There are, give or take, roughly 50 doctors, paramedics and nurses on hand to treat the Dome's 11,375 new residents.

Source: http://www.newsday.com/news/health/ats-ap_health18sep03.0.6841134.story?coll=ny-leadhealthnews-headlines

25. *September 03, Chicago Tribune (IL)* — **Azerbaijan pathogens sent to U.S.** More than 60 dangerous and deadly bacterial strains that are a legacy of the former Soviet Union's elaborate biological weapons program were transferred Friday, September 2, to the U.S. from Azerbaijan as part of the two countries' joint fight against the threat of biological terrorism. Copies of the strains, including bacteria that cause plague and anthrax, left Baku aboard a U.S. military aircraft in a mission cloaked in secrecy. The pathogens were scheduled to arrive at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware by Saturday, September 3, officials said, and government scientists will begin their analysis next week in Washington, DC. Senator Richard Lugar chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, who concluded the agreement here with Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, said the data would be "important in the war against terror and combating biological warfare." The sharing, Lugar said, also adds fresh and unique strains to a library of worldwide pathogens to help swiftly diagnose an international plague or prevent a disease outbreak. The U.S. formalized a biological agreement with Azerbaijan in June. Under the deal,

the U.S. provides money to help the country improve security for its pathogens to prevent theft that could lead to bioterrorism.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-0509030224sep03.1.7098534.story?coll=chi-newsnationworld-hed>

26. *September 02, Radio Free Europe* — Russia, Kazakhstan say bird flu cases decreasing.

Health officials in Russia and Kazakhstan said Friday, September 2, that the bird flu virus appears to be retreating but warned that outbreaks could still occur. Russia's chief veterinary inspector Yevgeny Nepoklonov asked counterparts in other parts of the world to closely monitor wild fowl migratory routes in order to prevent the bird flu from spreading to other continents. Talgat Abulgazin, the head of the Kazakh Agricultural Ministry's veterinary disease monitoring department, said the peak of bird flu in his country was over now. Abulgazin said that part of the reason for the decrease in bird flu cases was cooler weather. He noted that the disease peaked during the hottest days of August.

Source: <http://www.rferl.org/featuresarticle/2005/09/887d2801-39af-47ef-8a93-f217820839d9.html>

27. *September 01, National Academies* — Leadership and comprehensive plan needed to protect against importation of infectious diseases and bioterrorism agents at U.S. ports of entry. The system for intercepting microbial threats at the United States' airports, seaports, and borders needs strategic leadership and a comprehensive plan to meet the challenges posed by emerging diseases and bioterrorist threats, says a new report from the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) — particularly its Division of Global Migration and Quarantine and the individual quarantine stations at U.S. ports of entry — should be given the responsibility, authority, and resources to lead the effort to protect the public from microbial threats that originate abroad, said the committee that wrote the report. CDC also should work with national, state, and local partners to develop a more comprehensive strategic approach that clearly delineates each partner's roles and responsibilities. Every year, roughly 120 million people travel into or out of the U.S. through the 474 airports, seaports, and land-border crossings. In 2003 Congress began to allocate funds to bring the number of quarantine stations from eight to 25. The 25 cities that would comprise the expanded quarantine station system together receive more than 75 million international travelers and immigrants annually. They also receive 31 percent of the cargo imported by sea.

Source: <http://www4.nationalacademies.org/news.nsf/isbn/030909951X?OpenDocument>

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Government Sector

28. *September 04, New York Times* — Chief Justice Rehnquist Dies at 80. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist died Saturday night, September 3, of the thyroid cancer he had battled for nearly a year, opening a second Supreme Court vacancy just days before Senate confirmation hearings were to begin to fill the seat being vacated by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. Kathleen Arburg, the court's public information officer, said Chief Justice Rehnquist, 80, had died at his home in Arlington, Va., surrounded by his three children. She said he had been working at the court during the summer recess until his health declined a "precipitous decline" in the last few days.

William H. Rehnquist began his long Supreme Court career on the far right of the court's ideological spectrum. But subsequent appointments by Republican presidents eventually gave him a working majority that permitted him to accomplish many of his goals, including a greater solicitude for states' rights and for the role of religion in public life. He also led the court in cutting back on some of the Warren court's liberal precedents that favored the rights of criminal defendants. On Sunday morning, President Bush called the chief justice a "man of character and dedication."

Obituary: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/04/politics/04rehnquist.html>

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/09/04/politics/04court.html>

- 29. *September 03, Department of Homeland Security* — Response to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.** Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff traveled with President Bush on Friday, September 2, to tour the Gulf Coast states devastated by Hurricane Katrina. President Bush and Secretary Chertoff saw firsthand the destruction throughout the region, and reaffirmed the commitment of federal government to save lives and help rebuild the affected communities. While much work remains, important progress is being made. More than 30,000 response, rescue, recovery, and law enforcement personnel are working around the clock to bring critical aid and support to the areas. The scope of this disaster is unlike any natural disaster in our nation's history. High floodwaters caused major damage to critical transportation infrastructure. Crews have worked to repair bridges and re-open roads in order to expedite the flow of supplies and evacuation efforts.

Highlights of response to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina:

<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4784>

Related Information: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/editorial/editorial_07_12.xml

Hurricane Katrina Resources: <http://www.dhs.gov/katrina>

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=4783>

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Emergency Services Sector

- 30. *September 05, New Scientist* — Majority of New Orleans evacuation complete.** Evacuation of refugees from New Orleans' Superdome stadium and its Convention Center was completed over the weekend, although more refugees continue to arrive. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) counted 151,409 people in 563 shelters spread over 10 states. Most of the refugees are packed into Texas and Louisiana—officials are negotiating to ship evacuees to facilities such as military bases in other states. Rescue squads are still searching for survivors trapped in flooded areas. No one knows how many remain in the evacuation zone or how they are faring. With telephone lines damaged and power out in much of the area, communications are poor. Since the U.S. National Guard arrived on Friday, over 100,000 more people have been accommodated in shelters. On Sunday, FEMA reported that Coast Guard boats and aircraft had rescued 15,665 people from flood zones. Many others were saved by volunteers in private boats, and many waded through flood waters to evacuation points. Also on Sunday, FEMA reported that emergency workers had evacuated all surviving patients from the twelve largest hospitals in New Orleans to other medical facilities. Commercial jets flew thousands of evacuees—many sick or elderly—out of the state. FEMA has established a hotline to coordinate donations for victims of Katrina:

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=18604>
American Red Cross has announced a family links registry:
<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=18599>
Source: <http://www.newscientist.com/article.ns?id=dn7949>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

31. *September 02, FrSIRT* — **Mod_SSL "SSLVerifyClient" directive security bypass vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been identified in mod_ssl, which could be exploited by remote attackers to bypass security policies and gain access to unauthorized contents. This flaw is due to an error in the "SSLVerifyClient" directive that does not properly validate client certificates, which could be exploited by remote attackers to bypass security restrictions and gain access, without a valid client certificate, to protected contents. mod_ssl version 2.8.23 and prior are affected.
Users should upgrade to mod_ssl version 2.8.24: <http://www.modssl.org/source/>
Source: <http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2005/1625>
32. *September 02, Secunia* — **Savant Web Server exposure of user credentials.** A security issue has been discovered in Savant Web Server, which can be exploited by malicious, local users to disclose potentially sensitive information. The problem is that user credentials are stored with insecure permissions in "HKLM\SOFTWARE\DAEMONS\Savant\Users" in the Windows registry. This can be exploited to disclose server usernames and passwords. The security issue has been confirmed in version 3.1. Other versions may also be affected. Users should grant only trusted users access to affected systems.
Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16666/>
33. *September 02, Secunia* — **Phorum "Username" script insertion vulnerability.** A vulnerability in Phorum can be exploited by malicious people to conduct script insertion attacks. Input passed to the "Username" field in "register.php" isn't properly sanitized before being used. This can be exploited to inject arbitrary HTML and script code, which will be executed in a user's browser session in context of an affected site when the malicious user data is viewed. The vulnerability has been reported in version 5.0.17a and prior.
Users should update to version 5.0.18: <http://phorum.org/downloads/phorum-5.0.18.tar.gz>
Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16667/>
34. *September 02, Secunia* — **zsync Multiple zlib vulnerabilities.** Some vulnerabilities have been reported in zsync, which can be exploited by malicious people to conduct a DoS (Denial of Service) or potentially compromise a user's system. The vulnerabilities are caused due to the use of a vulnerable version of zlib. Users should restrict use of zsync to connect to trusted servers only. Some vendors have released fixed packages.
Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16672/>
35. *September 02, Secunia* — **Squid "sslConnectTimeout()" denial of service vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been discovered in Squid, which potentially can be exploited by malicious

people to cause a DoS (Denial of Service). The vulnerability is caused due to an unspecified error in the "sslConnectTimeout()" function after handling malformed requests. This may be exploited to crash Squid.

Users should apply a patch for 2.5.STABLE10:

<http://www.squid-cache.org/Versi...STABLE10-sslConnectTimeou t.patch>

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16674/>

36. *September 02, Secunia* — **PBLang multiple vulnerabilities**. Some vulnerabilities have been reported in PBLang, where some have unknown impacts and others can be exploited by malicious people to bypass certain security restrictions and manipulate sensitive information. Certain users can access restricted forums without proper permissions. Some unspecified errors in register.php and ucp.php can be exploited to inject code and create a user with administrative privileges. Authenticated users can delete other users' private messages.

Users should update to version 4.66z.

http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=62953

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/16657/>

37. *September 01, Security Focus* — **Plain Black Software WebGUI remote perl command execution vulnerabilities**. WebGUI may be exploited to execute arbitrary Perl commands. This issue presents itself due to insufficient sanitization of user-supplied data. Remote attackers may execute arbitrary Perl commands in the context of the Web server hosting the vulnerable application. This can facilitate unauthorized remote access. Versions of WebGUI prior to 6.7.3 are vulnerable. The vendor has released version 6.7.3 of WebGUI to address this issue.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/14732/info>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT has received reports of multiple phishing sites that attempt to trick users into donating funds to fraudulent foundations in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. US-CERT warns users to expect an increase in targeted phishing emails due to recent events in the Gulf Coast Region.

Phishing emails may appear as requests from a charitable organization asking the users to click on a link that will then take them to a fraudulent site that appears to be a legitimate charity. The users are then asked to provide personal information that can further expose them to future compromises.

Users are encouraged to take the following measures to protect themselves from this type of phishing attack:

1. Do not follow unsolicited web links received in email messages 2. Contact your financial institution immediately if you believe your account/and or financial information has been compromised

US-CERT strongly recommends that all users reference the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site for a list of legitimate charities to donate to their charity of choice.

For more information and current disaster updates please see URL:

<http://www.fema.gov/>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (---), 29719 (---), 445 (microsoft-ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 135 (epmap), 139 (netbios-ssn), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 22321 (wnn6_Tw), 6076 (---), 25 (smtp) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

38. *September 05, Associated Press* — Arizona counties say cost of illegal immigration soaring.

The cost of dealing with illegal immigration exceeds the emergency \$1.5 million Governor Janet Napolitano agreed to send to Southern Arizona, county officials say. Citing security shortcomings by the federal government, Napolitano and Democratic Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico last month declared emergencies on their states' borders with Mexico. That freed up emergency funds -- a total of more than \$3 million for the two states -- for law enforcement overtime, for repairs of border and cattle fences, and for costs related to illegal immigrants' deaths. However, officials of Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties said Friday, September 2, that they probably will have to spend at least \$5 million over the next six months to a year. County officials hope that their huge immigration-related costs will convince the governor that she needs to take a step beyond her emergency declaration and ask the federal government to declare a national emergency.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2005/09/04/ariz_counties_say_cost_of_illegal_immigration_soaring/

39. *September 05, Associated Press* — Crews plug levee break. A week after Hurricane Katrina,

engineers plugged the levee break that swamped much of the city and floodwaters began to recede. Sheets of metal and repeated helicopter drops of 3,000-pound sandbags along the 17th Street canal leading to Lake Pontchartrain succeeded Monday, September 5, in plugging a 200-foot-wide gap, and water was being pumped from the canal back into the lake. State officials and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers say once the canal level is drawn down two feet, Pumping Station 6 can begin pumping water out of the bowl-shaped city. Some parts of the city already showed slipping floodwaters as the repair neared completion, with the low-lying Ninth Ward dropping more than a foot. In downtown New Orleans, some streets were merely wet rather than swamped.

Source: <http://apnews.myway.com/article/20050906/D8CEFK800.html>

40. *September 04, Reuters* — **U.S. refugees face uncertain future after Katrina.** For all of the trauma suffered by hundreds of thousands of refugees from Hurricane Katrina, in some ways the hard part is only just beginning as they and public officials ponder how to rebuild their lives. Texas is accommodating 139,000 in public shelters, and another 100,000 or so evacuees are staying in hotels, Texas officials said. Many more also staying in private shelters run by churches and other groups or with Texan family and friends. Gov. Rick Perry said on Sunday, September 4, that he was seeking to airlift some of the refugees to other states such as Utah, Michigan, Iowa and New York as Texas is nearing its capacity to take in new people. "What the organizers should do very quickly is get the people out of there to smaller places," said Juergen Hoegl, who was part of a delegation in Houston with the Austrian Red Cross. San Antonio, Dallas and other cities across Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi all braced to accommodate a continuing stream of people in distress. Houston officials said they are hoping to place many of their refugees in 20,000 private and public apartments, to be funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Lines to rebuild official documentation from the Social Security Administration and other offices snaked through the Astrodome.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N04631751.htm>

41. *September 02, CNN* — **World leaders offer sympathy, aid in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.** British Prime Minister Tony Blair led world leaders' pledges of aid to hurricane-stricken areas of the U.S. Friday, September 2, with an offer to help "in any way we can." Australia on Friday said it would donate \$7.7 million immediately to the American Red Cross as well as sending a team of emergency management specialists to identify what other help could be offered and providing services where most needed. Japan donated \$200,000 to the Red Cross and would also provide up to \$300,000 in aid supplies such as tents and power generators. The European Union said it was ready to offer any assistance in the wake of "what is perhaps the greatest civil emergency in U.S. history." NATO said help was available but it would need to know more about what could be needed.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2005/WEATHER/09/02/katrina.world/index.html>

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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